

Question on Notice

No. 273

Asked on 29 March 2022

MR J LISTER ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise (a) the actual maintenance spend on the transport network (reported separately for each financial year from 2015–16 to 2020–21) and (b) the forecast maintenance spend (reported separately for this year and each year over the forward estimates)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Southern Downs for the question.

The Palaszczuk Government is delivering its sixth record Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program (QTRIP) in a row, the development of which is administered by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR). This four-year rolling program of works outlines \$27.5 billion in investment over the next four years, which is estimated to support an average of 24,000 direct jobs over the life of the program.

Queensland's world-leading pandemic response has made it the place to be and, to support the State's population boom, significant road upgrades are being delivered as part of *Queensland's COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plan*. With the Brisbane 2032 Olympics and Paralympics on the horizon, these upgrades provide immediate economic benefits, support more jobs and deliver ongoing benefits of vital infrastructure for years to come.

Transport Network Maintenance administered by TMR

It must be noted that the national land transport network maintenance task continues to grow rapidly. Funding from the Commonwealth Government is not only not keeping pace with demand, but it has not adequately funded maintenance of the national network over many years, meaning Queenslanders are subsidising critical road maintenance to sustain the national network.

The Queensland Government sought an extra \$280 million per annum from 2022–23 in the Commonwealth budget to ensure this nationally significant network is maintained to a safe and serviceable standard, noting employment benefits to the local economy. The Commonwealth provided no additional funding.

The actual maintenance expenditure on the transport network administered by TMR for each financial year from 2015–16 to 2020–21 is provided in the following table. These values comprise the QTRIP maintenance reporting categories of Corridor, Roadway and Structures Management, Programmed Maintenance, Rehabilitation, Routine Maintenance and Traffic Operations. Maintenance of the rail network carried out by Queensland Rail is not included here.

Actual QTRIP Maintenance Expenditure

Financial Year	Total Expenditure	Notes
2015–16	\$646,497,241	
2016–17	\$900,876,392	QTRIP maintenance preservation and operation (MPO) expenditure in 2016–17 includes \$106 million in works delivered under a Capital Acceleration Program of works over and above QTRIP planned allocations for that year

2017–18	\$957,147,641	QTRIP MPO expenditure in 2017–18 includes \$51 million in works delivered under a further Capital Acceleration Program of works over and above QTRIP planned allocations for that year.
2018–19	\$954,922,446	
2019–20	\$991,441,906	
2020–21	\$1,076,924,579	

The forecast maintenance expenditure on the state-controlled road network provided in *QTRIP 2021–22 to 2024–25* is outlined in the following table.

Forecast QTRIP Maintenance Expenditure

Financial Year	Total Maintenance Budget	Notes
2021–22	\$1,135,327,445	
2022–23	\$1,130,304,653	
2023–24 to 2024–25	\$2,400,561,960	QTRIP funding allocations are based on two years firm and two years indicative for planning purposes.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to maintaining a safe and resilient road network for all Queenslanders. That is why the government invested a record \$4.67 billion for maintenance, preservation and operation of the state-controlled road network in *QTRIP 2021–22 to 2024–25*.

Queensland Rail Maintenance

The following tables outline Queensland Rail's actual and forecast maintenance spend for each financial year from 2015–16 to 2020–21.

Actual Queensland Rail Maintenance Expenditure

Queensland Rail	Actuals					
	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21
Maintenance (\$M)*	367	381	396	384	392	403

* Excluding capital renewal costs

** FY17 to FY18 increase due to Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games

Forecast Queensland Rail Maintenance Expenditure

Queensland Rail	Budget				
	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26
Maintenance (\$M)	428	439	452	458	473

As evidenced above, the Palaszczuk Government is taking steps to ensure that, within available funds, the State's transport network is not only maintained in a safe and serviceable condition, but also is better able to mitigate the impacts of future major flooding events.